

BASKETBALL PRESEASON BULLETIN

Rules, Revisions and Interpretations

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PENNSYLVANIA INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

2010-2011 NFHS BASKETBALL RULES CHANGES

- 2-8-5; 3-3-8: Changed the guidelines and procedures for identifying and removing a player who exhibits signs, symptoms and/or behaviors consistent with a concussion.
- 3-5-3a: The list of permissible headband and wristband colors was changed to include any single solid school color.
- 10-3-6i; 10-5-5: Specific rules were added to address the unsporting acts of a player leaving the playing court for an unauthorized reason to demonstrate resentment, disgust or intimidation and team members leaving the bench area and/or playing court for an unauthorized reason.

2010-2011 NFHS MAJOR EDITORIAL CHANGES

- 3-3-1a NOTE; 4-34-2: Clarified that when a substitute is not properly reported, the players in the game at the conclusion of the quarter/when the time-out was granted shall begin play for the new quarter/after the time-out. During an intermission, all team members are bench personnel for the purpose of penalizing unsporting behavior.
- 3-4-2d: Clarified that a school or conference logo/mascot may be located at the apex/opening of the neckline, in the corresponding area on the back of the jersey and/or in the either side insert.
- 3-5-2: Clarified the requirements for guards, casts and braces and that a protective face mask shall be worn molded to the face.
- 4-4-7d: Clarified that the ball is at the disposal of a player when it is available after a goal and the official begins the throw-in count.
- 7-6-6: Clarified that when the ball is awarded to the wrong team, the mistake must be rectified before the throw-in ends.

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NFHS Points of Emphasis

Rules Enforcement

There appears to be continued movement away from consistent enforcement of NFHS playing rules. Personal interpretations of the rules by individual officials have a negative impact on the game. The rules are written to provide a balance between offense and defense, minimize risk to participants, promote the sound tradition of the game and promote fair play. Individual philosophies and deviations from the rules as they are written and interpreted by the NFHS, negatively impact the basic tenets and fundamental of the game. Illegal tactics that are permitted — are promoted. When officials allow players to use illegal tactics without penalty, the behavior is condoned and consequently encouraged. When officials consistently enforce the playing rules as intended, players and coaches are able to make the proper adjustments — promoting skill development and a level playing field.

Sporting Behavior

Teams entering the gymnasium prior to the contest should not run through the area occupied by the opposing team or under the basket when opponents are warming up. Teams should only enter, job and warm up on their half of the court. Gathers intended to motivate a team after the warm-up period, during or following player introductions and post-game celebrations should be performed in the area directly in front of the team bench. If during pre-game or half-time warm-up period one team leaves the floor, the other team may not use the entire court; teams may only warm up on their half of the court. Only authorized personnel (cheerleaders, athletic trainers, managers, administrators, etc.) should be permitted on the floor; all spectators should be in designated areas.

Perimeter Play

Two illegal actions are taking place on the perimeter of the court that are particularly problematic. First, defensive players are illegally using their hands to “check” the ball handler/dribbler. Secondly, offensive players are palming the ball to elude the defender. Both of these illegal tactics are going uncalled, which in turn, promotes further illegal actions (see Point of Emphasis #1).

A. Hand Checking

- 1) Hand-checking is any tactic using the hands or arms that allows a player, on offense or defense, to control (hold, impede, push, divert, slow or prevent) the movement of an opposing player.
- 2) Hand-checking is a foul and is not incidental contact.
- 3) Defensive players shall not have hand(s) on the offensive player. When a player has a hand on, two hands on or jabs a hand or forearm on an opponent, it is a foul.
- 4) When a player contacts an opponent with his or her hands as an aid in starting, stopping, driving around, defending a screen, controlling or anticipating the opponent’s next move, it is a foul. Players may not place their hands on an opponent with or without the ball.
- 5) Much of the roughness in the interscholastic game today is a direct result of not assessing the proper penalty when illegal contact with the hand(s) occur.

B. Palming

- 1) When the hand is in contact with the ball and the palm of the hand is beyond the perpendicular position (more than a handshake), tilted in a skyward position so the ball has come to rest on the hand, the dribble has ended.
- 2) When the player then pushes the ball to the floor, he or she is starting another dribble (illegal dribble), which is a violation.

Closely-Guarded Situations

Well officiated closely-guarded situations provide for better balance between offense and defense. When closely-guarded rules are not followed, there is a significant advantage for the offense. The following areas are to be emphasized:

- A. **Rule Basics.** A closely-guarded situation occurs when a player in control of the ball in his or her team’s frontcourt, is guarded by an opponent who is within 6 feet of the player who is holding or dribbling the ball; the defensive player must obtain a legal guarding position. A player shall not hold the ball for five seconds or dribble the ball for five seconds while closely guarded in his or her frontcourt. A player can legally hold the ball while closely guarded for four seconds, dribble the ball for four seconds and hold the ball again for four seconds before violating.

NFHS Points of Emphasis (Continued)

- B. **Measuring 6 Feet.** Officials must define and have a clear image of the 6-foot guarding distance necessary. Too frequently, officials require the defensive player to be within 3 to 4 feet prior to the count being initiated. Food visual examples of this distance can be found on the court as: the distance between the free-throw line and the top of the semi-circle; two adjacent marked lane spaces. Failure to properly judge the 6-foot distance and require the defender to be within 3 or 4 feet of the dribbler before beginning the count puts the defensive player in an unfair position.
- C. **Ending the Count.** A closely-guarded count ends when no defensive player is within 6 feet. The count also stops when a closely-guarded player: completes a dribble anywhere in the team's own frontcourt; starts a dribble in the team's own frontcourt and ends it anywhere in the frontcourt (a new five-second count will start if the player holds the ball); loses possession of the ball for any reason in the team's own frontcourt; or has his or her dribble interrupted. If a closely-guarded player beats the defender(s) by getting head and shoulders past the defensive player, the count has ended.
- D. **Multiple Defenders.** The count should continue even if there is a defensive switch, provided the 6-foot distance is maintained. There is no requirement for the defensive player to remain the same during the count as long as the offensive player is closely guarded throughout.
- E. **Counting Mechanics.** The official begins a visible count when the 6-foot distance is established and must switch arms when going directly from one counting situations to another.

Principle of Verticality

The committee is concerned that the principle of verticality is not being applied consistently, especially in situations that involve blocked shots. Verticality applies to a legal position. The following are the basic components of the principle of verticality:

- A. Legal guarding must be obtained initially and movement thereafter must be legal.
- B. For this position, the defender may rise or jump vertically and occupy the space within his or her vertical plane.
- C. The Hands and arms of the defender may be raised within his or her vertical plane while on the floor or in the air.

- D. The defender should not be penalized for leaving the flood vertically or having his/her hands and arms extended within his or her vertical plane.
- E. The offensive player, whether on the floor or airborne, may not "clear out" or cause contact within the defender's vertical plane; this is a foul.
- F. The defender may not "belly up" or use the lower part of the body or arms to cause contact outside his or her vertical plane; this is a foul.
- G. The player with the ball is to be given no more protection or consideration than the defender in judging which player has violated the rules.
- H. Misunderstanding of this rule generally results in the defensive player being charged with a foul when actually his or her vertical plane has likely been violated.

Comments on Rules

Concussion Procedure Revised (2-8-5; 3-3-8):

Any player who exhibits signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion must be immediately removed from the game and shall not return to play until cleared by an appropriate health care professional. The previous rule directed officials to remove an athlete from play if "unconscious or apparently unconscious." The previous rule also allowed for return to play based on written authorization by a medical doctor. The new rule requires that any player who exhibits signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion, such as loss of consciousness, headache, dizziness, confusion or balance problems, shall be immediately removed from play and shall not return until cleared by an appropriate health-care professional. Officials, coaches and administrators should be looking for signs of concussion in all athletes and should immediately remove any suspected concussed athlete from play and make every effort to ensure a concussed athlete does not continue to participate.

List of Legal Head/Wristband Colors Expanded (3-5-3a):

In 2008-2009 the rules stated headbands and wristbands must be a single solid color of white, black, beige or a color similar to the torso of the jersey. The rule has been revised to state that headbands and wristbands shall be white, black, beige or a single solid school color, provided all team members are wearing the same color for each item for all participants. This rule change will now allow team members to wear headbands and wristbands of school colors.

Comments on Rules (Continued)

Players and Team Members Required to Remain on the Court/In the Bench Area While the Game is in Progress (10-3-6i; 10-5-5):

A player leaving the court for an unauthorized reason to demonstrate resentment, disgust or intimidation will be added to the list of unsporting behaviors by a player with a technical foul penalty assessed. The committee hopes this rules change will further reduce the likelihood of individual players demonstrating unsporting behavior. In addition, a similar rule will be added requiring team members to remain on the court and in the bench area while the game is in progress until each quarter or extra period has officially ended. This includes free-throw attempts by an opponent with no time remaining on the clock. Since the Head Coach is ultimately responsible for the conduct of all team members, the penalty will be a technical foul assessed directly to the Head Coach.

Concussion Information

CONCUSSION RECOGNITION AND MANAGEMENT

Adolescent athletes are particularly vulnerable to the effects of concussion. Once considered little more than a minor "ding" on the head, it is now understood that a concussion has the potential to result in death, or short- and long-term changes in brain function. A concussion is a brain injury that results in a temporary disruption of normal brain function. A concussion occurs when the brain is violently rocked back and forth or twisted inside the skull as a result of a blow to the head or body.

The NFHS has been at the forefront of national sports organizations in emphasizing the importance of concussion education, recognition and proper management for the past several years. In 2008, the NFHS Sports Medicine Advisory Committee (SMAC) advocated that a concussed athlete be removed from play and not allowed to return to play on that same day. In 2009, this position was adopted by the leading group of sports medicine experts and the National Football League (NFL).

To highlight the continuing importance of this issue, the NFHS SMAC and each sport's rules committee has taken the unprecedented step of including Concussion Recognition and Management as a point of emphasis in each NFHS sport rules book for the 2010-11 year. The purpose of this point of emphasis is to explain the change in verbiage in the NFHS Football Rules Book regarding the official's recognition of a concussed athlete and to emphasize the importance of proper concussion management.

Concussions at all levels of sports have received a great deal of attention in the past few years. Attention has increased even more so over the past year, culminating with the NFL, NCAA and NFHS testifying before the United States Congress about what each organization is doing to protect athletes from concussions.

Change in verbiage

Previous rules books for most sports included language directing officials to remove an athlete from play if "unconscious or apparently unconscious." That language has been changed to the following:

Any athlete who exhibits signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion (such as loss of consciousness, headache, dizziness, confusion or balance problems) shall be immediately removed from the contest and shall not return to play until cleared by an appropriate health-care professional.

We now know that a person does not have to lose consciousness to suffer a concussion. In fact, according to our most recent data from the High School Reporting Information Online (RIO) and the National High School Sports Related Injury Surveillance Study, only 3.2 percent of all concussed athletes lost consciousness during the 2009 football season.

Given that most concussed athletes do not lose consciousness, yet they often show other common signs, symptoms and behaviors of concussion, the NFHS SMAC strongly believes that officials must be empowered to remove these athletes from play, thus protecting them from potential further injury. Continued participation in any sport following a concussion can lead to worsening concussion symptoms, as well as increased risk for further injury to the brain, and even death.

Neither officials, nor coaches, are expected to "diagnose" a concussion, as that is the job of an appropriate health-care professional. The previous rule called upon officials to determine "apparently unconscious" which appeared to expect some level of medical judgment. Officials are now being asked to use their best judgment again in observing the signs, symptoms and behaviors as listed above, but are no longer being asked to make what could be perceived to be a medical opinion. The well-being of the athlete is of paramount concern during any athletic contest.

Officials, coaches and administrators are being asked to make all efforts to ensure that concussed athletes do not continue to participate. Thus, coaches, players and administrators should also be looking for signs of concussion in all athletes and should immediately remove any suspected concussed athlete from play.

The game official is not responsible for the sideline evaluation or management of the athlete after he or she is removed from play. The responsibility of further evaluating and managing the symptomatic athlete falls upon the head coach, appropriate health-care professional or other individual designated by school administrators.

Concussion Information (Continued)

If an appropriate health-care professional on the sideline determines that the athlete HAS NOT suffered a concussion, the athlete may return to play. If there is no appropriate health-care professional available to evaluate the athlete, the athlete SHOULD NOT be allowed by the coach to return to play.

The official does not need written permission for an athlete to return nor does the official need to verify the credentials of the appropriate health-care professional. Ensuring compliance with the Suggested Management Guidelines is a health and safety issue and should be the responsibility of the head coach and school administration, NOT the game official.

Suggested Concussion Management

1. No athlete should return to play (RTP) or practice on the same day of a concussion.
2. Any athlete suspected of having a concussion should be evaluated by an appropriate health-care professional that day.
3. Any athlete with a concussion should be medically cleared by an appropriate healthcare professional prior to resuming participation in any practice or competition.
4. After medical clearance, RTP should follow a step-wise protocol with provisions for delayed RTP based upon return of any signs or symptoms.

The suggested guidelines for concussion management fall outside the realm of game management, but are clearly a health and safety issue for coaches and administrators. These guidelines should also be applied to practices and scrimmages. The position of the NFHS SMAC is that no athlete should return to play or practice on that same day after suffering a concussion. Studies have shown medical professionals that the school-aged brain does not recover quickly enough for a high school athlete to return to activity in such a short time.

An "appropriate health-care professional" as determined by PIAA is an MD/DO. There are no exceptions to this definition as adopted by PIAA Board of Directors. Athletes with continued concussion symptoms are at significant risk for recurrent, cumulative and even catastrophic consequences of a second concussive injury. Such risks are minimized if the athlete is allowed time to recover from the concussion and return to play decisions are carefully made. No athlete should return-to-sport or other at-risk participation when symptoms of concussion are present and recovery is ongoing.

For further details, please see the "NFHS Suggested Guidelines for Management of Concussion in Sports" at www.nfhs.org.

2010 - 2011 PIAA Adoptions

Adopt 2010-2011 NFHS Basketball Rules Book.

Adopt Rules 1-13-2 and 1-13-2 NOTE, coaching box and alternate placement of same, at all levels (varsity, junior varsity, or otherwise) of competition.

Adopt Rule 2-2-1 Note authorizing use of replay equipment at the conclusion of a state championship series contest(s).

Adopt Rule 5-5 NOTE, running clock, at all levels (varsity, junior varsity, or otherwise) of competition, upon completion of the first half and one team gains a 40-point differential over its opponent, the clock shall be stopped only when an official's time-out is taken, a charged time-out is granted, a period ends, or administering free throws.

Adopt Rule 10-5-1, the head coach, at all levels (varsity, junior varsity, or otherwise) of competition, may be off the bench in front of his/her seat within the confines of the designated 14-foot coaching box to give instructions to his/her players and/or substitutes.

Defined appropriate health care professional as licensed physician or osteopathic medicine (MD/DO).

2010-2011 Mechanics

1. In a crew of two, when free throws are to be attempted, the calling official will become trail and be positioned tableside. The lead official will be positioned opposite the table.
2. In a crew of three, the trail shall mirror the lead stop- and start-clock (chop) signals for frontcourt end line throw-ins.

END OF A PERIOD

The official responsible for the last shot in a period shall blow his/her whistle when the period ends. If there is no attempt for goal, he/she should just blow the whistle without any hand signals. If a shot is in progress, he/she shall blow the whistle and immediately give the good signal if it goes.

If the ball is still in the hand of the shooter as the horn sounds, blow the whistle and immediately give the no basket signal. (Both signals in the above situations should be given immediately and not wait until the ball enters or misses the basket). Many times an official may be influenced by crowd reaction if he./she waits until the ball enters the basket and then gives the signal for good or no good basket. There is no question when you have signaled good or no good prior to the ball reaching the basket. You will not be influenced by crowd reaction, the call has already been determined.

2010-2011 Mechanics (Continued)

TECHNICALS

A technical is a game tool to be used when appropriate and necessary. Whether it is a team technical, player or coach technical, it should be made like any other call without malice or aggressiveness. It is not necessary to invade a player's or coach's space when executing the technical call. Officials should have the same look and intensity as he/she does when calling a violation or foul. Make the call and move into your position. Do not get into a verbal confrontation with the player or coach.

The second direct technical always results in ejection.

A player is ejected to the bench and disqualified from participation the rest of the day and the very next game for the entire day. A coach is ejected from the vicinity of the gym for the rest of that day and the very next game for the entire day. He/she should not be in the gym as a spectator for that next game. That is the responsibility of the school to enforce that policy. Also, three indirects or two indirects and one direct to the coach results in ejection. Remember, any flagrant technical that is assessed to either the coach or a player results in immediate ejection. Following are some situations concerning team, player and coach technicals:

Team Technicals

SITUATION #1: Team A fails to present the roster and starting line-up to the scorer prior to the ten minute mark.

Ruling: One team technical charged to Team A.

Comment: Start the game with a technical {two free throws} for Team B followed by a mid-court throw-in, opposite table, for Team B. (Counts toward the bonus)

SITUATION #2: All five starters for Team B have different numbers than the ones listed in the score-book and must be changed before the jump ball.

Ruling: One team technical charged to Team B. (Counts toward the bonus)

Comment: If Team B has any more difficulties for the rest of the game, there is no additional penalty. (i.e. adding more names to the roster, changing additional numbers, etc.).

SITUATION #3: Team A attempts to start the game with a player who was not designated as a starter.

Ruling: One technical charged to Team A.

Comment: If the designated starter was injured or became ill during warm-ups, then there is no penalty. (Exception)

Note – Not presenting the scorer with rosters and starters prior to the ten minute mark results in one technical foul.

After the ten minute mark, for any infractions concerning, adding names, changing numbers, changing starters and identical numbers results in one technical foul only no matter how many of these infractions occur after the 10-minute mark.

SITUATION #4: Team B's coach is using a megaphone or a computer for coaching purposes.

Ruling: Team technical against Team B.

Comment: Any mechanical device or any electronic transmission device at courtside is prohibited.

SITUATION #5: Team B has more than five players participating simultaneously.

Ruling: Team technical against Team B.

Comment: Poor management by the game officials and must be penalized while the violation is occurring.

SITUATION #6: Following a time-out, all players from Team A do not enter the floor at approximately the same time.

Ruling: Team technical against Team A.

Comment: All players must return to the floor at approximately the same time following a time-out or intermission.

SITUATION #7: Team B requests an excess time-out.

Ruling: Team technical against Team B.

Comment: Grant the time-out and then enforce the technical foul.

Player Technicals

SITUATION #1: Team player A1 dunks the ball during warm-ups.

Ruling: A1 is charged with a technical foul and Team A's coach is charged with an indirect technical foul.

Comment: Any player on Team B may attempt the two free throws. The coach of Team A must sit for the entire game. (Technical counts toward the bonus)

SITUATION #2: Substitute B6 runs onto the court without reporting or being beckoned.

Ruling: Technical charged to B6 only. (Counts toward the bonus)

Comment: If the ball becomes live before it is discovered that B6 did not report properly, he/she is now a legal player and it is too late to penalize.

SITUATION #3: Player B1 participates after changing his/her number without reporting it to the scorer and an official.

Ruling: Flagrant technical foul.

Comment: Penalize while being violated. Player is ejected to the bench and is done for the entire day and the next game for the entire day.

SITUATION #4: Player A2 intentionally slaps or strikes the backboard or causes the ring to vibrate while a try is in flight or is touching the backboard or ring.

Ruling: Technical charged to A2.

Comment: It is not basket interference or goaltending. If the ball goes through the basket, count the score and enforce the technical foul.

2010-2011 Mechanics (Continued)

SITUATION #5: Player B3 removes his/her jersey within the visual confines of the playing area.

Ruling: Technical foul on B3.

Comment: If this occurs after the coach was notified that B3 committed his/her fifth foul, during an intermission between quarters or halftime or prior to the start of the game, the coach is assessed an indirect technical and must sit for the rest of the game. (All players are considered bench personnel at those times)

SITUATION #6: Player A3 punches B3 who does not retaliate.

Ruling: Flagrant personal or technical foul against A3 and ejected to the bench.

Comment: It depends on whether the ball was live or dead. If dead, it is a flagrant technical foul and anyone on team B may attempt the free throws. If live, B3 must attempt the free throws unless hurt, then his/her substitute must attempt the throws. (A3 is disqualified from participation the entire day and the next game for the entire day)

Coach Technicals

SITUATION #1: Head coach of Team A fails to replace A1 who was injured or fouled out within 20 seconds.

Ruling: Direct technical assessed to the head coach of Team A.

Comment: The head coach must sit for the rest of the game except to stand to call a time-out, to confer at the table for a correctable error, to spontaneously react to an outstanding play or acknowledge a replaced player (but must immediately return to his/her seat) and during time-outs and intermissions.

SITUATION #2: Head coach of Team B runs onto the court without being beckoned by the officials.

Ruling: Direct technical assessed to the head coach of Team B.

Comment: The head coach must sit for the rest of the game.

SITUATION #3: B2 reports into the game and is wearing a jersey with a visible manufacturer's logo on it.

Ruling: Direct technical to the head coach of Team B.

Comment: Penalize when discovered. Only one technical is charged regardless of the number of offenders.

SITUATION #4: Coach of Team A is out of the box and making gestures and derogatory remarks to the officials.

Ruling: Direct technical to the head coach of Team A and he/she must sit for the rest of the game.

Comment: In this situation, a warning to the coach is not appropriate.

SITUATION #5: Head Coach of Team B curses the officials loud enough that many spectators can hear him/her clearly.

Ruling: Direct flagrant technical foul on head coach of Team B.

Comment: Head coach of Team B is ejected from the vicinity of the gym and is disqualified for the entire day and the next game for the entire day. (Assistant must sit for the rest of the game)

SITUATION #6: Head coach of Team A refuses to attend the pre-game with the officials and captains. The officials tell the coach that he/she must attend the pre-game meeting. He/she is adamant and states that he/she is not going to attend.

Ruling: Direct flagrant technical to the coach.

Comment: He/she is ejected from the vicinity the gym and disqualified for the rest of the day and the next game for the entire day. (Assistant must sit for the entire game).

Arrival at the Site

Cooperation with Contest management begins with timely arrival at the Contest site. Nothing makes administrators and coaches more nervous at the onset of a contest than not knowing whether the officials are going to show up.

Start the game off right by communicating your arrival time at the site with the athletic administrator. Show up, where possible, at least thirty minutes prior to the scheduled tip-off. It will go a long way in helping your credibility as a quality official.

PIAA By-Laws, Article XV; Section 3 Requirement of Written Contract

All PIAA member schools shall enter into either paper or electronic contracts on the official contract form entitled "Contract for Officials Under PIAA Rules" with all registered sports officials retained by the schools or assigned by an assignor. Registered sports officials are independent contractors and therefore, are NOT employees of PIAA, the school, or the assignor. Disputes arising from oral agreements will not be considered by PIAA.



Section 4 Violation or Cancellation of Sports Officials' Contract By a PIAA Member School

If a PIAA member school violates or cancels a contract with an official, the District Committee or the Board of Directors, in their respective jurisdictions, may require a school so violating or so canceling to pay to the offended official the fee or fees for the Contest or Contests which have been provided in the official contract. Failure of a PIAA member school to live up to the terms of the contract shall be considered a violation of the Constitution and By-Laws of PIAA.

Comment: It has been brought to our attention on numerous occasions that officials have lost assignments or games because a school or assignor has "double booked" the contest. Officials are reminded that unless there is a written contract executed between the parties, they have no claim to any type of reimbursement from the offending school(s). Many schools have made a "good faith" effort to the officials to get them an additional assignment in the future or offer a scrimmage to pick up the lost fees. However, officially, without a written, signed, properly executed contract between the official(s) and the school(s), there is no recourse for the officials. In this day of technology it is not very hard for assignors, or schools, to execute these contracts. This is part of an assignor's responsibility. Officials should request contracts from their assignors or schools for both parties protection.

Official's Uniform

1. The PIAA Official's Emblem must be worn on the upper left sleeve of the official's standard shirt when officiating in all PIAA sponsored games.
2. All PIAA-registered officials must wear identical uniforms during a contest.
3. Required uniform for basketball officials:
Shirt: Alternating black and white 1-inch vertically striped, short-sleeved shirt with a black collar. V-neck shirts have been approved for PIAA member school games as long as all officials are dressed alike.
Slacks: Full length black trousers.
Belt: Black.
Socks: Black.
Shoes: Solid black with black laces.

PIAA recommends the use of a black, plastic FOX-40 whistle with a black lanyard. If jackets are worn before the game, they must be black in color and identical in style.

College jackets or jackets from any organization other than PIAA or local basketball chapters may not be worn. The wearing of jewelry (except wedding bands and medical-alert bracelets) and wrist watches (except as a required timing device) is prohibited. Smoking and/or tobacco chewing is prohibited (Minutes, Board of Control, PIAA Summer Workshop, July 17, 1989, p. 3).

PIAA sports' officials may display an American flag (maximum size 2 by 3 inches) on the right sleeve of their uniform shirt approximately three inches down from the shoulder seam. This will be the same position the PIAA official patch is displayed on the left sleeve.

PIAA Basketball officials may use a pink whistle for games that are designated as "cancer benefit" games by PIAA member schools.

Fitness and Health Condition

Athletic officiating is a vigorous avocation and it demands that an official be in excellent physical condition, able to give the very best, on every play, in every contest. To that end, the American Medical Association has stated that before one attempts any vigorous physical activity they should first visit their family physician for a check-up. It is part of good personal health maintenance to have an annual physical exam and participate in an exercise program. This type of exercise program should be minimally three days per week and include cardiovascular conditioning, strength training, flexibility and muscle endurance. These components along with proper nutrition will assist in developing one's optimum body composition. The PIAA Sports Medicine Committee recommends that each registered sports official have an annual physical examination and practice good health habits. Being physically fit and conveying an appropriate, positive image through proper health and nutrition habits will greatly assist all officials in keeping up with the game. After all, the game, the schools, players, coaches, spectators and fellow officials deserve no less. As importantly, officials owe good health habits to themselves and their families if for nothing more, than the health of it. If officials have any chronic health condition, officials are requested to share this information with on site medical personnel at their contest(s).

PIAA Sportsmanship Message



ALL OFFICIALS MUST READ THIS MESSAGE TO CAPTAINS AND HEAD COACHES PRIOR TO GAMES AT ALL LEVELS.

PIAA requires all registered sports' officials to enforce the sportsmanship rules for coaches and contestants. Actions meant to demean opposing contestants, team, spectators, and officials are not in the highest ideals of interscholastic education and will not be tolerated. Let today's contest reflect mutual respect. Coaches please certify to the officials' that your players are legally equipped and uniformed according to NFHS rules and PIAA adoptions. Good luck in today's contest.

For distribution purposes, this message is printed on the back of all PIAA registered sports officials' 2010-2011 identification cards. Chapter interpreters are requested to remind all officials to read this message at each contest they officiate.

There have been some concerns addressed by the schools that some of our officials are not reading the PIAA Sportsmanship message prior to the contest. This is an improper procedure and this message **MUST** be read. Officials are not to paraphrase, modify, or develop their own Sportsmanship Message to the captains and head coaches. The proper procedure is head coaches and captains **MUST** attend the pre-game reading of the sportsmanship message.

This message **MUST BE READ VERBATIM** by the contest officials. Coaches must certify to the contest officials their team is legally equipped and in compliance with NFHS Soccer Rules. The reading of this message will set the tone for the contest to be played in the spirit of good sportsmanship and have the coaches verbally confirm aloud their teams' adherence to compliance with equipment and safety rules. This confirmation is not only the adherence to contest rules, but also assists in alleviating the legal liability concerns for the officials if the teams subsequently violate the proper equipment provisions of the contest rules.

PIAA Officials Insurance

For the 2010-2011 school year, American Specialty Insurance Services will provide the following benefits:

- One Million Dollars of Liability Coverage;
- \$25,000 Excess Accident Medical Coverage (with a \$250 deductible);
- \$5,000 Accidental Death and Dismemberment (including a cardiac benefit).

This program is administered by American Specialty Insurance Services and underwritten by USF&G and Mutual of Omaha. Both carriers carry "A" ratings by A.M. Best. Again this year, as a new service for chapters, all regularly scheduled chapter meetings will be covered under PIAA's basic liability coverage.

This is a major change from the past when only the annual rules interpretation meetings have been covered. Chapters are requested to please submit their list of regularly scheduled chapter meetings to the PIAA Office to assist procedurally in the exchange of information to have all local associations' meetings covered.

Contact information is as follows:

Drew Smith,
Vice-President for Client Services
Sara Douglass
Administrative Assistant
American Specialty Insurances Services, Inc.
142 N. Main Street,
P.O. Box 309
Roanoke, Indiana 46783-0309
Phone: 260-672-8800
Fax: 260-673-1295
www.amerspec.com

Pre-Season Prep

Pre-season preparation applies to mental and physical fitness as well as updating one's uniform. Take the time to review your uniform annually so that you present a clean, crisp, neat uniform. As we all know, "you never have a second chance to make a first impression". It is also important to review your other officiating equipment; shoes, socks, undergarments, equipment bags, and other officiating supplies to make your uniform complete. Many officials work more than one game per week and need the ability to have multiple uniforms available for their use. Don't compromise your appearance and the reputation of your chapter by attempting to make that shirt and pants last another year. Game control starts with your appearance and the professionalism that goes with it. Be fit; be neat, be sharp. If you are in need of updating your officiating supplies, please be reminded that Purchase Officials Supply of Pennsylvania is the official vendor of PIAA Sport Officials' Uniforms. Please give them your consideration for any purchases regarding officials' supplies. If interested, you may provide them with your email address to send you their catalog, seasonal specials and discounted items that may be of interest and service to your avocation of sports' officiating. Purchase Officials Supply of PA may be contacted via email at mjsumpref@aol.com, www.pa.purchaseofficials.com, or by calling 800-934-4555.

PIAA By-Laws: Article XIII, Section 8

Any coach and/or contestant who, while coaching or competing for a PIAA member school, is ejected from a Contest by a state high school association recognized and/or registered official in that sport for unsportsmanlike conduct or flagrant misconduct shall be disqualified from coaching and/or participating **for the remainder of the day and in all Contests on the next Contest day of the same level (varsity, junior varsity, or otherwise) of competition.** For a coach, participation in the next Contest includes any contact by the coach with members of the Team, including other coaches, between the time that the Team arrives at the Contest site and the conclusion of the last Contest of the day. The Principal shall direct the coach not to attend all of the Contest(s).

Any coach and/or contestant ejected from the last Contest in that sport in a sport season shall be disqualified from coaching and/or participating in the first Contest(s) in that sport in the subsequent sport season, at the same level (varsity, junior varsity, or otherwise) of competition, at any PIAA member school or, if the student changes levels of competition, such as from junior varsity to varsity, the first Contest(s) in that sport.

The official shall file a report with the PIAA Office on the form prescribed for the sport involved, within twenty-four (24) hours following the completion of the Contest in which the ejection occurred. Failure to file such report shall not affect the validity or consequences of the ejection. In Basketball, the athletic director and principal must meet with the ejected coach/contestant and detail in a report what corrective action has been taken. This report then must be signed by all parties and sent to the district Basketball chairperson. This form is located on the PIAA website on the Basketball page.

When a coach or contestant is disqualified/ejected from a Regular or Post-Regular Season Contest a report must be filed by the official who disqualified/ejected the coach or contestant. When the report is received in the PIAA Office it is faxed to the concerned school Principal and Athletic Director and mailed to the respective District Chairmen, officials' representatives and sportsmanship chair. A copy is also given to the Associate Executive Director and placed in the school's file.

OFFICIALS ARE TO FILE A REPORT WITH THE PIAA OFFICE ON THE APPROPRIATE FORM WITHIN 24 HOURS OF THE EJECTION OR THEY MAY BE PLACED ON PROBATION.

Officials may complete the disqualification form online through the officials' information area of the PIAA website. Additionally, officials may email or fax a downloaded copy of the disqualification form. Officials who repeatedly do not file the proper form in the prescribed time period may be suspended.

Examples of Disqualification Provision of Article XIII, Section 8

The following examples are for players or coaches and are only examples and not a complete list. What this means is a player or coach ejected from a contest at any level must sit out the remainder of the day and the next day of the next contest at that level.

Example #1: Player/coach gets ejected from a junior varsity contest before a varsity contest. This player/coach gets disqualified for the **remainder of the day and the next day** of the next junior varsity contest. If this contest is followed by a varsity contest **on the same day**, the player/coach gets disqualified for the varsity contest also (**the whole day**).

Example #2: Player/coach gets ejected from a varsity contest on Friday, the team's next varsity contest is Friday. Before the varsity contest is a scheduled junior varsity contest, player/coach cannot participate in any of Friday contests.

Example #3: Player/coach gets ejected from a varsity basketball game Saturday. The next varsity contest is a game on next Friday but the game gets postponed to Saturday. On Saturday, the junior varsity team is to play in another basketball game, is player and/or coach eligible to participate in the junior varsity game?

Ruling: No. Since the Friday contest was postponed the **next varsity game** is the same day as the junior varsity game and the player/coach are not eligible to participate the whole day.

Communicable Disease and Skin Infection Procedures

The risk for blood-borne infectious diseases, such as HIV and Hepatitis B, remains low in sports and to date has not been reported. However, proper precautions are needed to minimize the potential risk of spreading these diseases. In addition to these diseases that can be spread through transmission if bodily fluids only, skin infections that occur due to skin contact with competitors and equipment deserve close oversight, especially considering the emergence of the potentially more serious infection with Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA).

Communicable Disease and Skin Infection Procedures

Means of reducing the potential exposure to these agents:

- Notify guardian, athletic trainer and coach of any lesion before competition or practice. Athlete must have a health-care provider evaluate lesion before returning to competition.
- If an outbreak occurs on a team, especially in a contact sport, consider evaluating other team members for potential spread of infectious agent
- Follow NFHS or state/local guidelines on “time until return to competition.” Allowance of participation with a covered lesion can occur if in accordance with NFHS, state or local guidelines and is no longer considered contagious.

Universal Hygiene Protocol for All Sports

- Shower immediately after all competition and practice.
- Wash all workout clothing after practice.
- Wash personal gear, such as knee pads, periodically.
- Don't share towels or personal hygiene products with others.
- Refrain from (full body) cosmetic shaving.

Blood-Borne Infectious Diseases

Means of reducing the potential exposure to these agents include:

- An athlete who is bleeding, has an open wound, has any amount of blood on his/her uniform, or has blood on his/her person, shall be directed to leave the activity until the bleeding is stopped, the wound is covered, the uniform and/or body is appropriately cleaned, and/or the uniform is changed before returning to competition.
- Certified athletic trainers or caregivers need to wear gloves and take other precautions to prevent blood-splash from contaminating themselves or others.
- Immediately wash contaminated surfaces or mucous membranes with soap and water.
- Clean all contaminated surfaces and equipment with disinfectant before returning to competition. Be sure to use gloves with cleaning.
- Any blood exposure or bites to the skin that break the surface must be reported and evaluated by a medical provider immediately.

As copied from the NFHS 2010 Basketball Rules Book

PIAA 2010/11 Basketball Schedule

First Practice Date	Friday, November 19
First Inter-School/Scrimmage Date	Friday, November 26
First Regular Season Play Date	Friday, December 10
Last Regular Season Contest Date.....	Saturday, February 26
District Championship Deadline.....	Saturday, March 5
PIAA Basketball Championships:	
Play-in Round.....	Tuesday, March 8
First Round.....	Friday & Saturday, March 11 & 12
Second Round.....	Tuesday & Wednesday, March 15 & 16
Quarterfinals.....	Friday & Saturday, March 18 & 19
Semi-Finals.....	Tuesday & Wednesday, March 22 & 23

PIAA Basketball Championship Finals

Bryce Jordan Center, PSU, University Park..... Friday, March 25

Championship Schedule:

AA Girls' Championship.....	1:00 pm
A Boys' Championship	3:00 pm
AAAA Girls' Championship.....	6:00 pm
AAA Boys' Championship	8:00 pm

Bryce Jordan Center, PSU, University Park..... Saturday, March 26

Championship Schedule:

A Girls' Championship	12:00 pm
AA Boys' Championship	2:00 pm
AAA Girls' Championship.....	5:00 pm
AAAA Boys' Championship.....	7:00 pm

PENNSYLVANIA INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC.
550 GETTYSBURG ROAD, PO BOX 2008
MECHANICSBURG PA 17055-0708
TELEPHONE (717) 697-0374 OR (800) 382-1392 FAX (717) 697-7721
WEBSITE www.piaa.org

BASKETBALL PLAYER, COACH, OR TEAM PERSONNEL DISQUALIFICATION FORM

During the 2010-2011 PIAA basketball Regular Season and Postseason, a disqualified basketball player, coach, and/or Team personnel shall not be permitted to participate **for the remainder of the day and in all Contests on the next Contest day of the same level (varsity, junior varsity, or otherwise) of competition from which the player, coach, and/or Team personnel was previously disqualified.** For a coach, participation in the next Contest includes any contact by the coach with members of the Team, including other coaches, between the time that the Team arrives at the Contest site and the conclusion of the last Contest of the day. The Principal shall direct the coach not to attend all of the Contest(s), in accordance with ARTICLE XIII, Disqualification from next contest. Section 8 of the PIAA By-Laws and NFHS Basketball Rules 2-8-1, 2-11-11N2, 2-12-5, 4-14, 4-18, 4-19-14, 5-8-3b, 10-3-8, 10-4-1g, 10 Pen 8, and 10-5-2. The referee must complete and file this form, as soon as possible, but no later than 24 hours following the completion of the Contest in which the disqualification took place by forwarding it to the above address.

Name of Ejected Player, Coach or Bench Personnel		School Name	
Date of Contest	Location of Contest	Time of Contest	
Visiting Team		PIAA District	Visiting Team's Final Score
Home Team		PIAA District	Home Team's Final Score
Name of Official Who Ejected Player, Coach or Bench Personnel			Level of Competition

REASON FOR DISQUALIFICATION

DATE OF REPORT

OFFICIAL'S SIGNATURE (PERSON ISSUING DQ)

PIAA DISTRICT